

Teaching future efl teachers english accents listening comprehension

The existence of the English language in a variety of accents has set conditions for the necessity of teaching future EFL teachers listening comprehension taking into consideration the whole variety. To solve the mentioned problem the teaching methodology has been theoretically substantiated, practically worked out and experimentally verified.

Teaching a certain accent listening comprehension includes three stages – the introductory stage, the preparatory stage, and the main stage. The objective of the introductory stage is to actualize, enlarge and summarize students' knowledge from the courses of practical and theoretical phonetics of the English language and from their own experience of the linguistic peculiarities of the correspondent accent. The types of exercises, which predominate at this stage, are receptive-reproductive, pre-communicative, and non-computer-assisted.

The preparatory stage aims at forming and improving students' phonetic sub-skills of a certain English accent listening comprehension. Such sub-skills include 1) identifying the phonemes, which are absent in the system of phonemes of Received Pronunciation (RP); 2) identifying the sound form of the word, different from RP, and correlating it with the corresponding meaning; 3) differentiating between the meanings of the words, which are homophones in certain accents; 4) identifying the phonetic form of the utterance, different from RP, and correlating it with the corresponding meaning. The types of exercises, which are used at this stage, are mainly receptive-reproductive, non-communicative, and computer-assisted.

As for the main stage, its objective is to develop students' skills of a certain English accent listening comprehension. The types of exercises, which dominate at the last stage, are receptive-productive, communicative, and non-computer-assisted.

On the basis of the introduced scheme eight complexes of exercises to teach future teachers eight English national and regional accents listening comprehension have been worked out.